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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 5, line 13 to page 5, line 3: change to read as follows:

A venting system is illustrated in larger scale in Figure 2. The outer circumference of the base of the flowerpot-shaped accommodation is provided with a continuous groove 15 that can accommodate a special seal 16. The main cross-section of seal 16 is round, and the seal is provided with a lip 17 that extends radially outward at the bottom. Unstressed, lip 17 rests against a conical surface 18 of groove 15. Seal 16 is inserted with its main cross-section in the groove between piston-rod centering ring 6 and piston-rod sealing ring 7. Various channels that will be specified in greater detail hereinafter act as venting components that create a one-way communication between the section between sliding bushing 11 and seal 13 on the one hand and a gas accommodating space 19 on the other. Gas-accommodating space 19 is at the top of the gap between inner cylinder 2 and outer cylinder 1. Below it, and in pressure-application chamber 4 as well, is shock-absorbing fluid. Sealing lip